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familiar with the literature and sources of colonial history will generally recognize the works to which Mr. Doyle refers and will probably have little difficulty in looking up his references if he care to do so.

CHARLES M. ANDREWS.

*Our Struggle for the Fourteenth Colony. Canada and the American Revolution.* In two volumes. By JUSTIN H. SMITH, Professor of Modern History in Dartmouth College. (New York and London: G. P. Putnam's Sons. 1907. Pp. xv, 638; xvii, 635.)

RARELY has an author taken more pains to know thoroughly the subject he writes about, than has Professor Smith in his study of the attempt during the Revolutionary War to secure Canada as a member of the American union. Not content with ransacking every known collection of printed material on the subject—government documents, pamphlets, newspapers, biographical matter of every kind—the author has visited the archives here and abroad and has made a tireless examination of every source available. Moreover, he has visited the scenes of the historical events and as a result tells his story with a vividness which adds greatly to the clearness with which we see the historical events. As a result of the great care taken in investigation, we have in these two volumes a definitive account of the subject, amply fortified with references, and with critical notes at the end of each volume. It is a cause for real regret that the author's strivings for literary effects of the tinsel variety have seriously vitiated his work.

So serious are the literary defects of the book that the reviewer cannot honestly pass them by; though he has such real admiration for Professor Smith's zeal and thoroughness in research that he would gladly ignore the errors in taste. To understand this stricture we must have before us some of the examples. A falls (I. 541) becomes under Professor Smith's fine-writing pen "the Ultima Thule of the salmon". A babe, whom the soldiers pass in the forest (I. 540), is "a wee, soft bud on the top shoot of civilization". The men do not *prosaically* fish, but "many a line dropped its barbed invitation into the water". Nor was this mere vulgar water, but "glowed with a pale, golden-blue flush, brightened with quickly vanishing stars where countless invisible wings dipped into invisible dust, and radiant here and there with dimples and smiles" (I. 555). Many such descriptions are thrown in *gratis*, and not because the historical narrative is made more vivid thereby. The soldiers, for example, do not camp in a humdrum place, but where (I. 560) "a pair of great pines towered above some fluttering birches like the cathedral spires above Chartres with a fine young elm keeping guard in front of them all, a soft maple, full of low, rich tones, bending from the point like a Sicilian girl at the fountain".

Not only does the history abound in Theocritean passages of this sort, but there are Dantesque pages as well (I. 592-595; II. 345) where horror piles upon horror, and the sources are ably seconded by the undismayed pen of the author. On page 324 of volume two, "fright, famine, shame, helplessness, the foe, the plague, . . . the dire prospect of total ruin, the grim visage of bloody death,—a ghastly brood,—all shook their black, foul, creaking wings over this wretched débris of huddling, fainting humanity". Lest the reader become too horror-stricken, Professor Smith reassures him (I. 138) "That one yell merely curdled [*sic*] a dream or two." Lest the eye accustomed to the newspaper, the novel and the magazine be displeased with solid pages of print, there are pages with one-line paragraphs of the following sort:

"But arms were needed. A battle against fearful odds, Yes; mere slaughter, No." (II. 278).

Yet the author tells us (I. viii) that his "intention has been to keep the requirements of critical investigation steadily in mind, and accept literary elements only for their sound historical worth". Here we ought to say that the work is not always so critical as it is exhaustive. In a number of cases the elements of several conflicting stories are combined to make one dramatic yarn upon which no critical care has been bestowed (I. 139).

In spite of the serious literary faults, and a considerable amount of material not subjected to rigid criticism, we are not likely to get a better account of this group of events in our Revolutionary history. From the point of view of United States history the whole matter is important chiefly because of what might have been. Yet the reaction of the results or failures of this project upon other affairs in the course of the Revolution have perhaps never been realized as Professor Smith's work will enable us to realize them hereafter.

An outline of the book will suggest the main topics which interest the student of the Revolution. In the chapter called "Roots of Bitterness" the old French régime and the new British régime are outlined to get before us the state of mind of the Canadian people when the struggle began. The second chapter continues this study, with special emphasis on the effect of the Quebec Act, both in Canada and in the thirteen colonies. Professor Smith does not agree with those who argue that the act contained no menace to the colonies southward, and his point is well supported by facts. Ticonderoga and the raids into Canada take up two chapters, and thereafter the attitude of Congress to these acts is fully treated. The wavering attitude of the different classes of Canadian people is shown, and then Congress's decision to send troops to Canada and the assembling of an army under Schuyler is related. The attitude of the Indians in the border country is ably discussed. After a chapter on Schuyler's early efforts "the curtain rises", and the struggle between Carleton and Montgomery is fully detailed, followed by four or five chapters on Arnold's famous expedi-

tion up the Kennebec and the joint assault with Montgomery on Quebec, closing with a series of chapters on the long, weary fight out of Canada. Several following chapters deal with work of the committee sent by Congress, and the Lafayette campaign which Gates made a fiasco. Near the end is the great French-American scheme of co-operation in driving Great Britain from all her American possessions. There are a few plans of Washington's never carried out, and when at last the attempts to win Canada in the peace negotiations fail, the story ends. There is a good index and an uncritical bibliography.

C. H. VAN TYNE.

*Leading American Soldiers.* By R. M. JOHNSTON, M.A., Lecturer in History at Harvard University. [Biographies of Leading Americans, edited by W. P. Trent.] (New York: Henry Holt and Company. 1907. Pp. xv, 371.)

THE thirteen chapters of this work are descriptions of the military careers of the thirteen leading soldiers in the history of the American colonies and of the United States. A just sense of proportion and perspective is equally characteristic of the work as a whole, and of the treatment of the several personages. The first two chapters, covering the Revolutionary War are devoted to Washington and Greene. The next three, carrying the reader to the Civil War, are given to Jackson, Taylor and Scott. Of the remaining eight chapters, five are assigned to Northern generals, Grant, Sherman, Sheridan, McClellan and Meade; and three to Southern generals, Lee, Jackson and Johnson. These chapters set forth in concise, fluent and effective language the principal achievements of their respective heroes, accompanied with brief general considerations of their merits or defects.

No attempt is made to link the chapters into a consecutive military history of the United States, or into a partial history of the art of war. The class of readers to whom the work is addressed may perhaps be judged from the fact that it contains but six small maps, and is set off with thirteen portraits. The delicate task of comparing the leaders one with another and pronouncing upon their relative ability is judiciously left to the reader. Owing, however, to the lack of maps and plans, the reader will be discouraged from following the author in his descriptions of operations, and be disposed to judge both the latter and the generals executing them by the estimate expressly or apparently placed upon them by the author. Whether he do this or form his own judgment with the aid of suitable maps, he will rise from the perusal of this work with a comprehension of American military character and history which he could hardly acquire from any other single work. He will be confirmed, if need be, in the recognition of George Washington as the Father of his Country, and of Lee and Jackson as the two greatest soldiers produced by the Civil War. He